**Response from the** [**Croatian Football Federation**](https://www.business-humanrights.org/en/companies/hrvatski-nogometni-savez-croatian-football-federation/) **to questions on human rights risks and due diligence ahead of FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022**

Dear Danielle and Isobel,

Thank you for your inquiry. Croatian Football Federation (HNS) is well aware of the challenges that Qatar has in the area of human rights, and that these cannot be underestimated.

We are encouraged by the fact that a lot has been done in Qatar since FIFA awarded the World Cup to Qatar. We can reference to the report from the International Labour Organisation (<https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_754391/lang--en/index.html>) and many facts and figures from the FIFA Sustainability Strategy (<https://www.fifa.com/what-we-do/sustainability/strategy/>).

We also underline our belief that hosting the World Cup, thus opening itself to the world, and different nations and cultures, is surely going to be useful for the human rights development in the county and the whole region.

HNS strongly believes in protection and promotion of human rights and those are the values we follow in all of our activities.

To follow up on your specific questions:

1.           Have you carried out a human rights risk assessment regarding your participation in the Qatar World Cup? If so, please outline the risks identified.

We did our research by delving into reports from FIFA and different NGOs in order to understand the situation in Qatar, and challenges when it comes to human rights.

2.           Please disclose the name of the hotel(s) booked to host your national team and staff during the World Cup.

The team base camp selection process is still on-going, and once it is finished (with June 2022 being the deadline), we'll publish that information through our communication channels. At this point, we cannot disclose any further information about the TBC selection process, as it is managed by FIFA team services.

3.           Please set out what human rights due diligence you undertook prior to booking the hotel or are undertaking in preparation for selecting a base camp and other facilities/amenities eg. transport, security or leisure facilities

Just like other national associations, HNS's only option is to choose a camp from the FIFA catalogue. As a FIFA member state, we respect such procedure and we strongly believe that FIFA, as a football governing body, takes strong care that all the hotels, and other companies and organisations that are contracted for the World Cup (including transportation, security etc.) meet all the necessary standards when it comes to securing human rights to its workers. At this point, HNS does not plan to contract any other company for its activities in Qatar - we're planning to use only FIFA services.

Subject of human rights is very important to FIFA (as it is to HNS as well). Since 2011, FIFA has been actively engaging with the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy (SC) and key stakeholders such as the Building and Woodworkers’ International (BWI) with the aim of enhancing the monitoring and enforcement mechanisms regarding labour rights on FIFA World Cup sites. FIFA and the SC not only work to protect construction workers on FIFA World Cup sites but expanded the systems to cover other workers who become involved in the tournament preparation, such as in the hotel, transportation, logistics or security industries.

We believe that FIFA has much greater resources, both financial and human, than any individual national association, and therefore, that it will make sure that the World Cup is organised at a high standard in every regard, including human rights.  After all, it is expected by every participant nation that FIFA does exactly that.

Best regards,

Tomislav